

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

STR-04 ACDA-05 ACDE-00 (ISO) W
----- 008460

O R 301731Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1802

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 19795

HELSINKI PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RO, FR

SUBJECT: CHIRAC VISIT TO ROMANIA: QUAI IMPRESSIONS

REF: PARIS 19744

SUMMARY. QUAI DIRECTOR EASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
OMNES, WHO ACCOMPANIED CHIRAC TO ROMANIA JULY 24-28,
PROVIDED EMBOFF WITH FOLLOWING QUAI IMPRESSIONS OF THIS
VISIT, IN HOPE THIS WOULD ASSIST US OFFICIALS INVOLVED
WITH PRESIDENT'S IMPENDING TRIP TO BUCHAREST. END
SUMMARY.

1. OMNES SAID TRIP WAS IN A SENSE FRENCH MAKE-UP
EXERCISE FOR ABSENCE OF ANY HIGH-LEVEL FRENCH-ROMANIAN
EXCHANGE SINCE CEAUSESCU'S 1970 VISIT TO PARIS. MOREOVER,
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BUCHAREST HAD GROWN INCREASINGLY (OMNES THOUGHT SOMEWHAT

JUSTIFIABLY) MIFFED OVER ATTENTIONS PARIS WAS IN MEAN-TIME PAYING ELSEWHERE IN EASTERN EUROPE, PARTICULARLY TO POLAND AND USSR.

2. ECONOMIC ISSUES:

A. PRACTICAL FOCUS OF VISIT WAS ON FRENCH-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS, WHICH ALSO HAD NOT ADVANCED AS RAPIDLY AS ROMANIANS DESIRED. CONTRARY TO PUBLIC BALLYHOO THIS SUBJECT, OMNES SAID QUAI IN FACT DID NOT FORESEE ANY DRAMATIC RISE IN FRANCO-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS AS RESULT OF VISIT, CERTAINLY NOT TO EXTENT OF GROWTH FRENCH TRADE WITH POLAND. AGREEMENTS REACHED WERE NEVERTHELESS USEFUL. THUS, AFTER INTERMINABLE HAGGLING OVER ROMANIAN DEMANDS FOR FRENCH MFN CLAUSE, WHICH LASTED TO VERY DAY OF SIGNATURE, A TEN-YEAR ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED WHICH, OMNES SAID, FOLLOWED STANDARD FRENCH FORMULA IN EASTERN EUROPE. ON MFN ISSUE, FRENCH FINALLY YIELDED BECAUSE OF UK PRECEDENT, BUT EXCHANGED LETTERS WITH ROMANIANS STATING THAT THIS COMMITMENT WOULD ONLY BE VALID INSOFAR AS IT DID NOT CONTRAVENE EC COMMERCIAL RULES.

B. SECOND TEXT INITIALED WAS DETAILED SURVEY OF POSSIBLE AREAS OF INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, INVOLVING WIDE RANGE OF SECTORS. KEY AREAS ARE AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTION (RENAULT MAY INCREASE ITS ROLE), HELICOPTERS AND SMALL COMPUTERS. LIST ALSO INCLUDES SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS IN IRON AND STEEL, CHEMICAL, AND ENERGY SECTORS.' NEGOTIATION THIS AREA WERE COMPLICATED BY ROMANIAN DESIRE TO MAKE MOST PARTS THEMSELVES AND TO OBTAIN PRIOR ASSURANCE OF MARKETS.

C. CHIRAC ALSO SIGNED A TOURISM AGREEMENT, NOTABLE ONLY FOR FACT THAT ROMANIANS ADAMANTLY REFUSED ACCEPT CLAUSE REQUIRING INVESTIGATION AND SOLUTION OF TOURIST ACCIDENTS UNTIL VERY DAY OF SCHEDULED SIGNING.

3. POLITICAL ISSUES:

A. ON POLITICAL SIDE, ROMANIANS PRESSED HARD AND INSISTENTLY FOR COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE REFLECTING THEIR WELL-KNOWN PREOCCUPATIO.

B. SPECIFICALLY, AND SOMEWHAT CONTRARY TO
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IMPRESSION CONVEYED BY BOIDEVAIX (REFTEL), MOST DIFFICULT POINT INVOLVED ROMANIAN INSISTENCE ON ELABORATE REFERENCE TO CSCE FOLLOW-UP, THE MORE CURIOUS IN VIEW OF WELL-KNOWN FRENCH OPPOSITION TO ROMANIAN FOLLOW-UP PROPOSALS AT CSCE STAGE II. IN END ROMANIANS SETTLED FOR VAGUE PHRASING.

C. FRENCH WERE EQUALLY SURPRISED BY VIGOR AND

CONVICTION WITH WHICH CEAUSESCU PERSONALLY PRESSED FOR
WHOLE CATALOGUE OF UNREALISTIC DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS
CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE TO FRENCH; INCLUDING NOT ONLY
PROJECTS FOR CONVENTIONAL AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT, BUT FOR
WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES FROM FOREIGN TERRITORIES,
DISMANTLING OF FOREIGN BASES AND DEFINITION OF NUCLEAR-
FREE ZONES.

D. LAST-NAMED IDEA ALSO CAME UP IN CONTEXT BALKAN

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PARAGRAPH OF COMMUNIQUE. ROMANIANS WANTED TO INCLUDE
REFERENCES TO DE-NUCLEARIZATION OF BALKANS AND LANGUAGE
IMPLYING DESIRABILITY ITS NEUTRALIZATION, WHICH FRENCH
COULD NOT ACCEPT.

E. FRENCH ALSO HAD DIFFICULTY WITH CULTURAL PARA-
GRAPH, WHICH ROMANIANS TRIED HARD TO RESTRICT. SIMILARLY

ROMANIANS SELECTED SEVERAL, BUT NOT ALL, CSCE PRINCIPLES FOR INCLUSION IN TEXT. IN END ALL TEN WERE REFERRED TO. TO FRENCH SURPRISE, ROMANIANS DID AGREE TO INCLUDE REFERENCE IN COMMUNIQUE, STATING THEIR WILLINGNESS TO "RESPECT STRICTLY ALL STIPULATIONS" OF CSCE FINALACT AND TO "IMPLEMENT THEM", WITHOUT TRYING TO RESTRICT REFERENCE TO CSCE "PRINCIPLES."

4. INTERNATIONAL ISSUES:

OMNES SAID PORTUGAL AND CYPRUS WERE DISCUSSED.
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HOWEVER, QUAI HAS NOT BEEN INFORMED OF DETAILS. AS FOR MIDDLE EAST, ROMANIANS TOOK STANDARD POSITIONS, MAKING IT CLEAR THAT THEY WOULD NOT MIND HAVING AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY A MINOR, INTERMEDIARY ROLE IN THEIR AREA.

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